

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1897...

NEWTON
ASSOCIATION.

NEWTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION, HELD WITH PROVIDENCE CHURCH OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, 1897.

OFFICERS:

P. M. CALLAWAY, Sr., Newton, Ala.,	-	MODERATOR.
S. L. LOUDERMILK,	"	Clerk.
B. T. JONES,	"	Treasurer.

The next session of the Association will convene with the Newton Church on Tuesday before the 2d Sunday in October, 1898, unless changed by the Executive Committee.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Enrollment of Messengers.
3. Election of officers.
4. Petitionary letters.
5. Receive Correspondents and visitors.
6. Appoint correspondents.
7. Appoint special committees, on 1. Devotional Service; 2. Nominations; 3. Documents; 4. Deceased Ministers and Deacons.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Reports of Standing Committees.
10. Reports of Special Committees.
11. Appoint Standing Committees.
12. Miscellaneous matters. Adjourn.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. W. Bullard, Daleville, Ala.	P. M. Callaway, Sr., Newton, Ala.
P. M. Callaway, Jr., Newton, Ala.	W. A. Cumbie, Wicksburg, Ala.
J. W. Dickenson, Ozark, Ala.	R. Deal, Ozark, Ala.
W. W. Falkner, Charlton, Ala.	J. R. Hankins, Ozark, Ala.
R. Herring, Midland City, Ala.	B. T. Jones, Newton, Ala.
S. L. Loudermilk, Newton, Ala.	J. M. Poyner, Newton, Ala.
N. J. Peters, Newton, Ala.	C. S. Pelham, Ozark, Ala.
W. H. Simmons, Ozark, Ala.	

STANDING COMMITTEES.

EDUCATION.—S. L. Loudermilk, E. A. Thompson and H. M. Walding
STATE MISSIONS.—B. T. Jones, W. F. Collins and J. I. Pouncey.
HOME MISSIONS.—R. Herring, J. J. Beckham and D. B. Windham.
SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—R. L. Jones, J. S. Stubbs and S. S. Pippin.
ORPHANS HOME.—S. C. D. Brown, W. G. Mathews, W. H. Grimmer.
TEMPERANCE.—M. R. Howell, J. F. Pouncey and J. W. Dean.
FOREIGN MISSIONS.—P. M. Callaway, Jr., W. L. Deal, J. W. Bullard.
INDIGENT MINISTERS.—W. W. Faulkner, J. A. Phillips, G. A. Thompson.
PASTORAL SUPPORT.—R. L. Jones, S. L. Loudermilk, N. J. Peters.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—W. W. Morris, R. L. Jones, J. F. Pouncey, W. F. Clements, D. B. Windham.

MINUTES.

The Newton Baptist Association met with Providence Baptist Church at Clayhatchie, Ala., Saturday, October 9, 1897.

The Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. P. M. Callaway, Jr. Text, Mark 16:16.

After refreshments the Association was called to order at 2 p. m., by Rev. B. T. Jones in the absence of the former Moderator. On motion Rev. P. M. Callaway, Sr., was elected Temporary Moderator and Rev. S. L. Loudermilk, Temporary Clerk.

After reading the 67th Psalm by the Moderator, Brother J. W. Bullard led in prayer.

The chair appointed Rev. J. W. Dickenson and Rev. H. L. Martin to read the letters from the churches, which were represented as follows:

Bethel—Charles Hollis and W. R. Miller.

Chalk Head—D. B. Windham and E. E. Andrews.

Cedar Grove—J. D. Rivenbark, J. W. Floyd and H. C. Goodman.

Charlton—W. H. Grimmer and D. McFadden.

Daleville—S. C. D. Brown, W. F. Collins and J. W. Bullard.

Elam—J. A. Philips and J. E. Pelham.

Enon—M. R. Howell and W. L. Deal.

Midland City—Rev. R. Herring, H. C. Copeland and J. W. Pierce.

North Pisgah—J. L. V. Kirkland and R. C. Deal.

Mt Zion—Thomas B. Senn and J. W. Goodman.

New Hope—J. W. Alexander and C. C. Covington.

Newton—Rev's P. M. Callaway, sr., S. L. Loudermilk, R. L. Jones and B. T. Jones.

Pleasant Hill—J. W. Dean and J. S. Stubbs.

Pine Level—J. W. Helms and A. J. Hagler.

Pleasant Ridge—S. S. Pippin, J. C. Brown, J. T. Jackson and A. J. Bryan.

Providence—H. M. Walden, J. F. Pouncey and E. A. Thompson.

Salem—W. D. Snell and J. M. York.

Spring Hill—J. W. Davis, S. P. Wilkinson and J. M. Reeder.

Summer Hill—D. I. Smith.

Rocky Mount—J. A. Bottoms and H. W. Norris.

Union—Judge W. W. Morris, Rev. J. W. Dickenson, W. G. Mathews, H. L. Martin, and C. S. Pelham.

On motion of Rev. J. W. Dickenson the rules were suspended and Rev. P. M. Callaway, Sr., was elected Moderator of the Association and W. W. Morris, Assistant Moderator. S. L. Loudermilk was elected Clerk and B. T. Jones Treasurer. After appropriate remarks of acceptance by the Moderator and Clerk, on motion Brother P. M. Callaway, Sr., was appointed to give some reminiscences and notes of his long experience as a minister in this region at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning. Last year's Order of Business adopted.

Rocky Mount Church was then received into the Association on petitionary letter.

The following Correspondents were received:

From Geneva Association—Rev P L Mosley and J J Watson

From Haw Ridge—C L Mathews, C A Hatcher, T J Speigner, P G Beleher, J W Smith, R E Smith and G E Beleher.

On motion any member of a church in this Association who visits a sister Association bearing one of our Minutes be hereby authorized to represent this Association as a corresponding messenger.

P M Dowling was recognized as a representative of the Texas Baptist Standard; and R Herring of the Alabama Baptist; also B T Jones of the Foreign Mission Journal.

The following committees were then appointed:

Divine Service—Pastor and Deacons of Providence church.

Nominations—S C D Brown, J M York and R L Jones.

Documents—R C Deal, B T Jones and R Herring.

Finance—J F Pouncey, M R Howell and J C Brown.

Deceased Ministers and Deacons—R Herring, H M Walding and D McFadden.

Committee on Divine Service reported that Rev. Cas Deal would preach at 7:30 tonight, and Rev P M Callaway would speak at 10 a. m. on Sunday—and A J Preston to preach at 11 a. m., H L Martin at 3 p. m. and P L Mosley at 7:30 p. m. A motion prevailed to have the Sunday School report on Sunday at 8:30 a m and the Reports on Missions at 3 p m Sunday.

Committee on Hospitality assigned homes by churches.

Adjourned to 8:30 Sunday morning.

Prof. J R Hankins preached on Saturday night from Rom. 8:37.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Met at 8:30. Devotional services conducted by Rev. R Herring: Special prayer led by M R Howell for the yellow fever sufferers.

Report on Sunday Schools presented by J F Pouncey. Discussed by B T Jones and Prof J R Hankins. Discussion suspended until afternoon.

After a song the moderator, Rev. P M Callaway, Sr., was given an hour to give reminiscences and historical items of his work and the work of the churches in Southeast Alabama for the last 50 years. This, the 10th day of October, is his 86th birthday. Many and impressive were the incidents related by this "father in Israel," at the close of which the congregation gave him a hearty and grateful hand shake. It was a spiritual ovation.

In the absence of Rev A. J. Preston, our State Evangelist, Rev. J. W. Dickenson preached a strong discourse on "Eternal Life." Text, Rom. 1:17. A collection was taken for missions. Amount \$30.34.

AFTERNOON.

Song—"How Firm a Foundation," Prayer by P. L. Mosley. Sermon by H. L. Martin on "The Judgment," by request.

On motion adjourned to 8:30 a. m. Monday.

Preaching at 7:30 Sunday night by S L. Loudermilk. Subject: "The necessity of the Spirit." Text, Rom. 8:9, last clause.

Monday—Met at 8:30 a. m. Called to order by the Moderator. Prayer led by A. J. Preston. Brother Preston was recognized as the representative of the State Board.

Took up the Report on Sunday Schools. Discussed by S. L. Loudermilk, J. F. Pouncey, R. L. Jones, A. J. Preston and P. M. Dowling. Report adopted.

The reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions were read and jointly discussed by P. M. Callaway, Sr., A. J. Preston, W. W. Morris, R. L. Jones and P. M. Dowling. A spontaneous collection of \$22 07 followed. A prayer of thanksgiving and dedication was then offered led by Brother C. S. Pelham. Reports adopted.

The regular order was suspended to hear the report of C. S. Pelham as Colporter. The report read and adopted after some satisfactory remarks by Brother Pelham.

In the absence of any report on education, on motion A. J. Preston was asked to speak to that subject. It was also discussed by P. M. Callaway, Sr.

Upon a call for an expression there was a determined and unanimous vote in favor of the immediate retirement of W. H. Whitsett from the Theological Seminary at Louisville.

The report on the Orphanage was read and, after remarks by A. J. Preston, was adopted.

The following resolution was offered by S. L. Loudermilk and adopted:

Resolved, That this Association reaffirm its former declarations and time-honored principles on the question of Temperance. We further recommend total abstinence from intoxicating drinks as the best safeguard against intemperance.

On motion a Committee on Indigent Ministers was created, and talks thereon were made by P. M. Callaway, Sr., and R. Herring. On motion a Committee on Pastoral support was also created to report at next session.

The report of the Committee on Documents was read and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Nominations read and adopted.

The report of the Executive Committee was also read and adopted. Standing Committees were then announced. (See table.)

Report on Deceased Ministers and Deacons read and adopted.

On motion the time for holding the next session of this body was set to meet on Tuesday before the second Sunday in October, 1898.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee was charged with the duty of receiving petitions from churches and locating the place of next session of the Association; and notify the Clerk immediately.

The Clerk was awarded \$10.00 for his services and directed to have the Minutes printed and distributed according to the remainder of the minute money.

The following was then offered by W. W. Morris and adopted:

Resolved, That we, the delegates of this Association, tender our heartfelt thanks to the brethren and sisters of Providence church and the community for their hospitality and kindness in entertaining this Association.

Adjourned for one hour. Called to order by W. W. Morris.

Resolved, That this Association recommend to each church that they donate immediately to the support of Brother C. S. Pelham, at least 3 cents for each member. Adopted.

The following offered by W. G. Mathews: As we have some aged and infirm ministers in our bounds who need our assistance; therefore we recommend that the churches raise contributions for an Indigent Ministers' fund for next session. Adopted.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and received.

On motion to adjourn the congregation engaged in singing "God be with you 'till we meet again," and a soul-stirring handshake. Prayer led by J. W. Bullard. Thus closed one of the best sessions of the Newton Association.

P. M. CALLAWAY, Sr., MODERATOR.

S. L. LOUDERMILK, Clerk.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

STATE MISSIONS.—The great work of the churches is to evangelize the world. All missions are one; we divide the work for the sake of convenience; but the work is the same, whether done in this or some other country. Whenever you go to a man or woman, boy or girl with the message of life and salvation you are a missionary. State missions is the beginning at home. It is taking care of the root of the tree, which, if neglected, will cause the whole tree to wither and die. The policy of the State Board has recently undergone some changes. We are returning to the old plan of sending out evangelists. Last year we had two, and a few Colporters at work in the State, besides a number of missionary pastors in the State. This year we have six evangelists and more colporters than last year, and are still helping to sustain the cause at a few weak points. The State Board of Missions collects funds for Home and Foreign Missions; for Bible and Colportage; for Indigent Ministres and for our Orphanage at Evergreen. The State Board is now in debt and needs our special efforts for assistance. Respectfully submitted,

B. T. JONES, Chairman.

HOME MISSIONS.—Our Home Mission Board is located in Atlanta, Ga. Dr. I. T. Tichenor is our Corresponding Secretary. There are, at present, about 380 missionaries in the employ of the Home Board. These faithful servants of Christ are at work throughout the Southern States, the Indian Territory and Cuba. Their average salary is about \$300. Thus you see that at least \$115,000 is needed every year to enable us to maintain the work already in hand. We ought to increase our contributions so as to advance and occupy new and important fields that need the gospel. To raise this amount Alabama alone ought to contribute at least \$10,000 and this Association ought to raise at least \$140. Brethren we can easily raise this amount for each of our Boards, and we ought not to think of raising a less amount. We owe the gospel to those in our own land, and to those in foreign lands also, but especially do we owe it to those whose lands we now occupy—the Aborigines. As we conquered them at the point of the sword let us now subdue them to Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. MORRIS, Ch'm'n.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—The last words of our risen and ascended Lord to his disciples were these: "All authority is given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go you therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever. I commanded you; and lo, I am with you all the days even unto the end of the world." In these words we have our authority, our instructions and our encouragement for missionary endeavor. Our authority, in that He into whose hands all authority has been given,

has commanded us. Our instructions, in that we are to disciple all nations, baptising them into the name of the trinity and teaching them to observe all the commandments of Christ. Our encouragement, in that the risen and enthroned Christ is ever with us to the end. In order that this last great command of our Savior may be effectually carried out, our southern churches, co-operating in the work of spreading the gospel, have formed the Foreign Mission Board, located at Richmond, Va., that through this agency they may more wisely concentrate efforts for the advancement of the kingdom of Christ.

As to the number of missionaries employed and work done on foreign fields by the Baptists of Alabama, your committee respectfully suggest that each church composing this Association procure one or more copies of the minutes of the State Convention and that each member read said minutes and get a personal information respecting the foreign missionary work. As we consider the reports of our officials and missionaries, published from time to time in our minutes and denominational papers we have great reason for encouragement in the work, both by our "prayers and alms."

The doors of all nations are open to the entrance of the gospel, and many men like Paul and Barnabas are willing to hazard their lives for the gospel's sake. We long to see this same spirit take greater hold upon the hearts of all our people, that each one who cannot go will be impelled to do something that will help others go.

To this end we suggest and recommend:

1st, That our pastors preach more frequently on the subject of foreign missions, showing the people their duty and stirring up their zeal with missionary information.

2d, That regular collections be taken in all our churches at regular periods for the support of this work.

3d, That missionary societies be formed in all the churches, whose aim shall be to gather and dispense missionary information and cultivate the missionary spirit in the members.

4th, That all our churches supply themselves with a sufficient number of copies of Foreign Mission Journal, published at Richmond, Va., and with tracts and leaflets, published at Baptist Mission Rooms, Baltimore, Md., as will give the needed information respecting the great work of foreign missions.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. DICKINSON, Ch'm'n.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—We all recognize the Sabbath of Divine appointment—a day of rest—"a Sabbath unto the Lord, thy God" given to man to rest from his labor of six days. "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." We should meet to study His will and sing His praises on this precious day—Sunday—the Christian Sabbath. God's people have, in all ages, observed the Lord's day by meeting and worshiping Him. We readily see that the word of God was taught on the Sabbath day—hence we use the word school—a place of instruction, moral and spiritual, teaching and training, (not saving) pupils about the will of God. It is a sad condition when Christians will not thus honor God. It is encouraging to see people coming together in nearly every church, teaching and being taught the precious word of God concerning Jesus and His love. Your committee can remember when there were but few churches that had Sunday school. We would recommend more thoroughness in teaching the lessons, more

faithfulness in doctrines. Pupils should be more like the noble Bereans and "search the scriptures daily." A brother said: "We do not teach doctrine in our school." I ask, why not? Is it wrong to teach the fundamental truths of God's word? The total depravity of mankind; "repentance toward God and faith toward Jesus Christ," salvation by grace, and the immersion of the believer—symbolical of the burial and glorious resurrection of our Saviour? Let us be faithful stewards of Christ. Respectfully submitted,

J. F. POUNCEY, Ch'm'n.

COLPORTER'S REPORT.—Dear Brethren: Since the last Association I have been much afflicted, so that I have not done the work that I desired to do. I have done the best I could. I have traveled 1450 miles, preached 58 sermons, held 140 devotional services, delivered 140 admonitions and exhortations—visited 43 sick persons, made 300 family visits, traveled 158 days, sold 40 Bibles, 132 Testaments, 26 other books and donated 9 books. I have received kind words from all and kind deeds from a few. I have received to date \$80.31.

Thankful for past favors, I am respectfully, C. S. PELHAM.

ORPHANS HOME.—Its name is Louise Short Baptist Widows and Orphans' Home of Alabama. The first step taken toward establishing it was in November, 1890, when the State Baptist Convention was in session in Mobile. Mrs. M. L. B. Woodson made known to the convention, through Rev. F. C. Plaster, that she would give her real estate to the denomination for the maintenance of a Baptist Widows' and Orphans' Home in Alabama. The home, however, was not actually started till March 10th, 1893, when in a small rented house we received three poor children. It had now been only temporarily located in Evergreen. By November our family numbered 22, and the trustees, after advertising for bids for a location, selected property in Evergreen and located the home permanently.

The property has been paid for and there is no incumbrance on it. There have been received into it in all 70 children, 37 girls and 33 boys, 32 of whom have gone out; so that at present we have 38. Of those that have gone out, two have been apprenticed, seven have returned to their people and 23 have been adopted. They have been received from the following counties: Barbour 3, Lee 3, Covington 8, Talladega 6, Limestone 1, Walker 6, Escambia 7, Conecuh 2, Monroe 4, Tuscaloosa 3, Jefferson 8, Montgomery 2, Marengo 4, Russell 1, Pike 4, Bibb 2, Chambers 1, Butler 3, Tallapoosa 2.

The children have enjoyed good health this year. There has never been a death in the home. They are under firm, loving control. They seem to be contented and happy. They are taught to do various kinds of work—all who are old enough to attend the agricultural school. The Home is receiving some important and much needed improvements at present; hands are greatly needed to do this work.

Only a few churches and Sunday Schools contribute to us regularly, and there are more than 1200 churches in the State that have never given a cent to it. The work commends itself to the Lord's people. Brethren, help.

JNO. W. STEWART, Financial Sec.

DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.—Your committee take pleasure in announcing that the Lord has spared the lives of all our ministers and deacons, through the past year, for which we sincerely thank God.

R. HERRING, Ch'm'n.

DOCUMENTS.—We find that 21 churches are represented by 53 messengers; that we have received one new church—Rocky Mount—by petitionary letter. Upon examination we find nothing of extraordinary interest. No invitations for next session appears.

R. C. DEAL, Chairman.

NOMINATIONS.—We your committee nominate Prof. J. R. Hankins to preach the Introductory sermon for next annual session, with Bro. R. Deal, Alternate. We nominate as Executive Committee brethren W. W. Morris, R. L. Jones, J. E. Pouncey, W. F. Clements, and D. B. Windham. We nominate as our delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention, Rev. S. L. Loudermilk, and W. H. Simmons. We nominate as delegates to the Baptist State Convention at East Lake, B. T. Jones, W. W. Morris, W. W. Faulkner, J. M. York, S. L. Loudermilk, J. O. Pinckard, R. L. Jones, P. M. Callaway, Jr., Dr. W. R. Belcher and M. L. Metcalf. Respectfully, P. M. CALLAWAY, Jr., Ch'm'n.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—In following the instructions of the last meeting of this body, we have apportioned among the churches the amount pledged to Bro. C. S. Pelham.

We find from his report that he has received \$80.31.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. MORRIS, Ch'm'n.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.—We report in cash and vouchers the following amounts for the following purposes:

	CASH.	VOUCHERS.	TOTALS.
For State Missions - - -	\$ 65 25	\$ 68 16—	\$133 41
For Home Missions - - -	8 50	6 70—	15 20
For Foreign Missions - - -	17 00	11 71—	28 71
For Bible and Colportage - - -	14 89	77 67—	92 56
For Associational Purposes - - -	1 80	—	1 80
For Ministerial Education - - -	1 00	66 65—	67 65
For College Buildings - - -	-	80 64—	80 64
For Orphans' Home - - -	3 37	41 57—	44 94
For Minutes - - -	27 55	—	27 55
Totals - - -	\$139 36	\$353 10—	\$492 46

We have examined the Treasurer's report and find it correct.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. POUNCEY, Ch'm'n.

DECORUM.

Every query sent to the Association by any Church in this union shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator, whether it shall be debated or not, and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated; but if not, it shall be withdrawn; Provided always, that those be first considered which effect the union of the Churches.

2. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

3. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject in debate.

4. No person shall speak more than three times upon the same subject, without leave of the Moderator.

5. No member shall abruptly break off or absent himself without leave of the body, and if he so does, he shall be marked as an absentee.

6. The names of the members of this Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over as often as the body may require.

7. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speaking as any other member, provided the Chair be filled; but he shall not vote except the body be equally divided.

8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular record of the proceedings of the body.

9. The Minutes of the Associations shall be read and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the body rises.

10. Amendments may be made to this Form of Government by two-thirds of the members in session.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. This Union shall be known and distinguished by the style and title of the Newton Baptist Association.

ART. II. This Association shall be composed of representatives from the Churches in Union, in the following ratio: All churches composed of one hundred members and under, shall be allowed two messengers. Those having over one hundred and not more than one hundred and fifty members, three messengers. Those having over one hundred and fifty and not more than two hundred members, four messengers, and so on in gradation—one messenger for every fifty members—who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their Churches before they take their seats.

ART. III. The messengers, when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberative body by the election of a Moderator and Clerk. These officers shall be chosen by ballot at each annual meeting and continue in office until new ones are elected.

ART. IV. The Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which she is composed. She shall regard them as independent bodies in all matters of internal government, and shall only act as advisory council, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to her by the churches, or evidently implied by the very nature of this compact. She nevertheless claims authority over her own members, the messenger of the churches, and in justice and propriety must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches that depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming hetero-

dox in faith, or disorderly in practice. She should therefore regard all the churches united under this constitution, with a vigilant eye for good. Her principal business shall be to promote the glory of God by extending His kingdom of grace on earth, through the medium of preaching the gospel, and other means in accordance with that gospel. To cultivate union and fellowship with all churches of Christ, and especially with those united in this Association.

ART. V. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this Union on their sending up their messengers to an annual meeting with petition, and these messengers agreeing to the abstract of principles herewith published.

ART. VI. The churches of this Union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association written communications, specifying the names of the messengers; number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored and dead since the last session; and all other information which the churches may deem of importance, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. VII. This Association shall have a fund supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all monies thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches and paid over through the Committee on Finance to the Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association. He shall receive and manage the funds according to the order of the Association, present annually for insertion in the minutes a clear and full statement of all receipts and expenditures.

ART. VIII. This Association shall furnish the churches with the Minutes of every session.

ART. IX.—This Association shall not take cognizance of any query sent up from the churches, unless they have endeavored to solve the same and failed; nor of any difficulties between churches, unless they have pursued the directions in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them, then the Association shall take such matters into consideration, and act upon them at her discretion.

ART. X. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of printed minutes of every session of this body, and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

ART. XI. This Association, when convened, shall be governed by proper rules of decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend according to her own views.

ART. XII. This Constitution may be altered or amended at a regular meeting of the body by a concurring voice of two-thirds of the members present; provided such alteration or amendment be approved by a majority of the churches.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF NEWTON ASSOCIATION FOR YEAR 1897.

CHURCHES.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Associational.	Bible and Colportage	Ministerial.	College Buildings.	Orphan's Home.	Minutes.	Pastor's Salary.	Rep'ts, fuel, poor etc	Sunday Schools.	Home Expenses.	Missions.	School Expenses.	Value of Property.
Bethel.									1 20	32 75	5 00					200 00
Cedar Grove.					3 20				85							
Chalk Head.					7 10				1 50	87 65					7 00	800
Charlton.									1 80							
Daleville									1 25	26 00	31 00					
Elm.	6 06	1 50	2 00	1 00	5 41			50	1 25							250
Midland City.	6 43				2 46				1 50	50 00					6 60	250
Mt. Pisgah.	3 30		2 00	80	3 00				1 00							
Mount Zion.					2 00				1 50							
New Hope.					9 05				1 10							
Newton	28 86	6 70	11 71		4 58	36 65	20 14	22 07	2 00	1 43	00 26	00 20	00 7 85		20 00	2000
Pleasant Ridge.			3 00		10 90				2 00							
Pleasant Hill.	1 71				2 50				1 30							
Providence.	5 26	2 00	5 00		10 35			1 00	1 35			4 00				500
Pine Level.	2 75				1 95				1 50							
Salem.	4 75	1 00	1 00		5 60	1 00		1 87	1 20							
Rocky Mount	1 10								1 00							
Spring Hill.	4 25				2 96				1 25							
Summer Hill.					70											
Union.	18 70	5 00	5 00		20 80	5 00	42 50	19 50	3 00	600 00				10 45	37 73	3000
A. J. Preston.						25 00	18 00									
By Association.	52 43															
Totals.	133 41	15 20	28 71	1 80	92 56	67 65	80 64	44 94	27 55	939 40	62 00	24 00	7 85	10 45	37 73	7000

There was found a discrepancy of \$4.13, which is deducted from the three Mission Boards

STATISTICS AND DIRECTORY.

CHURCHES	COUNTY	PASTORS	P'ST OFFICE	CLERKS	P'ST OFFICE	No last report	Baptized	R'd by letter	Experience	Restored	Dis by letter	Excluded	Died	Present Membership
Betuel	Dale	J. G. Conant	Wattford, Ala.	W. R. Dowling	Newton	53	1	1		1	7	3		52
Cedar Grove	"	J. T. Barnes	Newville	J. W. Floyd	Midland City	70	1							64
Chalk Head	"	"	"	T. J. Parker	Ozark	58		2	11		3	1	2	65
Charlton	"	R. Deal	Ozark	W. H. Grimmer	Charlton	144		3			7	11		129
Daleville	"	P. L. Mosley	Geneva	W. E. Mullins	Daleville	142		6			4	2		142
Enon	"	J. T. Barnes	Newville	A. J. Beverett	Art	36	4	8	1		1			49
Elam	Barbour	J. A. Phillips	Elamville	T. P. C. Phillips	Elamville	11	16	1		1	5		1	106
Midland City	Dale	J. M. Poyner	Newton	H. C. Copeland	Midland City	41	5	9		1				55
Mt. Pisgah	"	J. T. Barnes	Newville	R. C. Deal	Echo	81		2		1	8	2		72
Mt. Zion	Coffee	J. D. Allen	Fresco	Jno. Robertson	Tennille	108		2			3	4	3	100
New Hope	Dale	R. B. Arnold	Mizell	G. I. Mims	Clopton	136					5	1		130
Newton	"	S. L. Loudermilk	Newton	J. M. Poyner, Jr	Newton	166	14	7		2	10	1		178
Penial *	"													
Pleasant Ridge	"	R. B. Arnold	Mizell	E. Flowers	Argenta	182	5	10			4	3	1	189
Pleasant Hill	"	B. J. Jones	Newton	S. A. Matthews	Ozark	82	4	2		2	11	2	2	76
Providence	"	P. L. Mosley	Geneva	Jesse Pouncey	Clayhatchee	137	3	4			11	1		132
Pine Level	Barbour	R. B. Arnold	Mizell	J. W. Helms		94	2	1			3			94
Rocky Mount †	Dale	R. Herring	Midland City	J. A. Bottoms	Ozark									16
Salem	"			W. F. Clements	Pinckard	96	13	13		3	3	4	2	120
Spring Field *	Pike													45
Spring Hill	Barbour	J. A. Phillips	Elamville	J. M. Reeder	Reeder's Mill	53	5	3			3	5		61
Summer Hill	Dale	R. Herring	Midland City	J. C. S. Dunn	Asbury	25	7	4		2				37
Union	"	J. W. Dickenson	Ozark	B. P. Garner	Ozark	222	1	11			16	3	2	213

* Not represented

† New church

75 102 12 13 104 43 13 2125

From John
+ Clark Miller
no one but John